

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The projects/studies recently sponsored by the Government are:

1. Coordinated Programmes related to Technology development in the Indian languages, particularly Role of Indian Sanskrit tradition in evolving Artificial Intelligence Systems. (Department of Electronics).

2. Foundations and methodologies of theoretical sciences (logic, linguistics, mathematics, cognitive science) in Indian tradition (National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies, NISTADS).

Although modern developments may not directly be evolving from our ancient literature, inspiration is drawn from the work of ancient India and examples of utilisation are in the areas of Medicine and Health (drug based on Gugglu for Hyperlipidamia) and Metallurgy (precision casting). Some of the subjects for basic studies in Indian Tradition are logic, linguistics, mathematics and cognitive science.

Indo-German Ties in Coal Projects

5658. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether some agreement has been reached between India and Germany for coal projects;

(b) if so, the fields of coal which are being covered in the agreement; and

(c) the details of cooperation being offered by the Germany and how India propose to help that country in the business?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE

MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMA-GOUDA): (a) A meeting of Indo-German Joint Working Group on Coal was held in New Delhi on 21–22 January, 1992 to reiveu the present status of Indo-German Cooperation in Coal Sector and its proposals for future cooperation.

(b) In Coal sector, German assistance has been sought for constructing open cast mines with "in-pit crushing and conveyor" technology, shaft sinking methods, coal preparation plants and ventilation of deep underground mines, etc.

(c) Assistance from Germany has been received for phase I of Chinakuri Project of Eastern Coalfields Limited and Bina Deshaling Plant of Northern Coalfields Limited. Germany has also agreed to provide assistance for implementation of Ramagundam II open cast project of Singareni Collieries Company Limited. The concerned Coal companies are participating in these projects by making available counterpart indigenous project components.

National Commission on Small Scale Industries

5659. SHRI SOBHANA DREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Commission to examine the problems being faced by the Small Scale Industrial Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Do not arise.